

Representatives,

I am a long time Connecticut resident. Currently, the Connecticut Constitution explicitly allows for five reasons for absentee voting: (1) Absence from city or town of residence during all hours of voting; (2) Illness or physical disability; (3) Tenets of religion forbid secular activity on the day of the primary, election, or referendum; (4) Active service with the armed forces of the United States; and (5) Service as election or referendum official outside of voting district and duties will keep one away during all hours of voting. Heading into our third year of combatting, understanding and living with COVID, using it as a reason to circumvent the proper amendment process of the Constitution is a serious abuse of power and violation of our democracy. Those who want to see no-excuse, absentee voting become a reality in Connecticut should do it via the constitutional amendment process and wait for the expression of the will of the people via [the referendum in 2024](#)

There is no reason to extend no-excuse absentee voting for the upcoming November 2022 elections. There is no Covid emergency. If someone is sick with Covid at the time of the Election, there is already a provision in our Constitution to allow for absentee voting for illness. If we can all go out shopping, eat at restaurants, attend school and basically live normal lives now, we can do our duty and vote in-person. People are also not nearly as close together when they vote as they are in stores or schools so there is no logical reason to declare voting any more dangerous than going to the grocery store...and in fact, it's less. Also, there are many more opportunities for fraud with mail in voting. We all know that DMV registers people to vote and also issues illegal aliens driver's licenses. I see a huge problem with this. We also know that signatures are not being checked and dead people have been voting by mail. The easiest way to cut down on fraud opportunities is to require people to vote in-person on Election day like we have always done with the few exceptions already in our Constitution for absentee voting. If you care about the integrity of our elections, you will NOT extend no-excuse voting.

Thank you

*Kristy*

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